

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for dynamically linking at least two dissimilar databases with dissimilar structures, comprising:

linking the two dissimilar databases by means of a pointers database that contains a smaller number of records than a number of records contained in either one of the at least two dissimilar databases;

the pointers database receiving instructions external to the at least two dissimilar databases, to effect relationships changes between the at least two dissimilar databases; and

in response to the external instructions, selectively changing pointers [[relationships]] between records in the at least two dissimilar databases by changing records in the pointers database, without changing the records in the at least two dissimilar databases.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein a ratio of the number of records contained in the pointers database to the number of records contained in either one or the at least two dissimilar databases ranges between approximately 0.005% and 5%.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least two dissimilar databases include a customer database and an organization database.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, [[wherein changing relationships between fields in the at least two dissimilar databases is initiated by changes to a record in the customer database.]] further comprising:

the pointers database detecting a change to a record in the customer database; and

in response to the change to the record in the customer database, selectively changing a pointer in the pointers database, without changing the records in the organization database.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4, wherein [[changes]] the change to the record in the customer database [[include changes]] comprises a change to any one or more of: status change, location, country of residence, importance of business relationship, volume of business, and credit worthiness.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, [[wherein changing relationships between records in the at least two dissimilar databases is initiated by changes to a record in the organization database.]] further comprising:

the pointers database detecting a change to a record in the organization database; and

in response to the change to the record in the organization database, selectively changing a pointer in the pointers database, without changing the records in the customer database.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein [[changes]] the change to the record in the organization database [[include changes]] comprises a change to any one or more of: organization hierarchy type, branch office, responsibility, and geopolitical status.

8. (Currently amended) A computer program for dynamically linking at least two dissimilar databases with dissimilar structures, comprising:

a first set of program instructions for linking the two dissimilar databases by means of a pointers database that contains a smaller number of records than a number of records contained in either one of the at least two dissimilar databases;

the pointers database receiving instructions external to the at least two dissimilar databases, to effect relationships changes between the at least two dissimilar databases; and

a second set of program instructions for changing pointers [[relationships]] between records in the at least two dissimilar databases by changing records in the pointers database, without changing the records in the at least two dissimilar databases.

9. (Original) The computer program of claim 8, wherein a ratio of the number of records contained in the pointers database to the number of records contained in either one or the at least two dissimilar databases ranges between approximately 0.005% and 5%.

10. (Original) The computer program of claim 8, wherein the at least two dissimilar databases include a customer database and an organization database.

11. (Currently amended) The computer program of claim 10, [[wherein the second set of program instructions includes changes to a record in the customer database.]] further comprising:

the pointers database detecting a change to a record in the customer database; and

in response to the change to the record in the customer database, a third set of instruction codes selectively changes a pointer in the pointers database, without changing the records in the organization database.

12. (Currently amended) The computer program of claim 11, wherein [[changes]] the change to the record in the customer database [[include changes]] comprises a change to any one or more of: status change, location, country of residence, importance of business relationship, volume of business, and credit worthiness.

13. (Currently amended) The computer program of claim 10, [[wherein the second set of program instructions includes changes to a record in the organization database.]] further comprising:

the pointers database detecting a change to a record in the organization database; and

in response to the change to the record in the organization database, a fourth set of instruction codes selectively changes a pointer in the pointers database, without changing the records in the customer database.

14. (Currently amended) The computer program of claim 13, wherein [[changes]] the change to the record in the organization database

[[include changes]] comprises a change to any one or more of:
organization hierarchy type, branch office, responsibility, and geopolitical status.

15. (Currently amended) A system for dynamically linking at least two dissimilar databases with dissimilar structures, comprising:

a pointers database [[means]] for linking the two dissimilar databases [[by means of a pointers database that]], wherein the pointers database contains a smaller number of records than a number of records contained in either one of the at least two dissimilar databases;

the pointers database receiving instructions external to the at least two dissimilar databases, to effect relationships changes between the at least two dissimilar databases; and

in response to the external instructions, the pointers database selectively changes pointers in the pointers database [[means for changing relationships between records in the at least two dissimilar databases by changing records in the pointers database]], without changing the records in the at least two dissimilar databases.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein a ratio of the number of records contained in the pointers database to the number of records contained in either one or the at least two dissimilar databases ranges between approximately 0.005% and 5%.

17. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the at least two dissimilar databases include a customer database and an organization database.

18. (Currently amended) The system of claim 17, wherein [[the changing means includes changes to a record in the customer database.]] further comprising:

the pointers database detecting a change to a record in the customer database; and

in response to the change to the record in the customer database, the pointers database selectively changing a pointer, without changing the records in the organization database.

19. (Currently amended) The system of claim 17, [[wherein the changing means includes changes to a record in the organization database.]] further comprising:

the pointers database detecting a change to a record in the organization database; and

in response to the change to the record in the organization database, the pointers database selectively changing a pointer, without changing the records in the customer database.